

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 12221 301322Z  
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ABF-01 FS-01 SSO-00 /020 W  
-----112865 301323Z /43

O P 301305Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO NSF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5738

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 12221

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TGEN, IN

SUBJECT: NSF-SFCP - INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON  
BIO-SALINE RESEARCH

REF: (A) STATE 148615; (B) STATE 172142; (C) STATE 206645

1. ON THE BASIS OF REFTEL (A) AND NSF'S MORE SPECIFIC REQUEST FOR EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFYING TWO INDIAN EXPERTS FOR SUBJECT WORKSHOP AND IN OBTAINING GOI CLEARANCE FOR NSF SUPPORT FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION, EMBASSY IN EARLY AUGUST SENT A NOTE TO MEA REQUESTING THEM TO NOMINATE TWO INDIAN SCIENTISTS FOR THE CONFERENCE AND TO GIVE CLEARANCE FOR NSF SUPPORT FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION. WE HAVE LEARNED INFORMALLY THAT THE MEA WROTE TO THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ASKING THEM TO NOMINATE TWO SCIENTISTS FOR THE CONFERENCE. THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS REPLIED TO MEA SUGGESTING PARTICIPATION OF THE FOLLOWING TWO SCIENTISTS: (1) DR. K.V. PALIWAL OF INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NEW DELHI AND (2) DR. K.K.R. BHARDWAJ, MICROBIOLOGISTS, CENTRAL SOIL AND SALINITY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, KARNAL. WE EXPECT TO RECEIVE THE FINAL FORMAL GOI NOMINATION OF THESE TWO SCIENTISTS SHORTLY.

2. WE WERE SURPRISED TO HEAR THAT NSF HAD SENT DIRECT INVITATIONS TO DR. ABROL AND DR. IYENGAR AS STATED IN REFTEL (C). THIS COULD CREATE A VERY EMBARRASSING SITUATION FOR THE EMBASSY. AS NSF IS AWARE, EVERY INVITATION TO AN INDIAN NATIONAL FROM A US GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR FUNDED BY US GOVERNMENT FUNDS MUST BE ROUTED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND IN NO CASE SHOULD IT BE SENT DIRECTLY TO THE INDIVIDUALS. IN THIS CASE, EMBASSY HAD ALREADY ASKED THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL

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AFFAIRS TO NOMINATE THE SCIENTISTS. HAVING NOMINATED ITS OWN CANDIDATES, GOI IS UNLIKELY TO GIVE CLEARANCE TO OTHER SCIENTISTS DIRECTLY INVITED BY NSF. MOREOVER, MEA COULD TAKE STRONG OBJECTION TO THE EXTENDING OF DIRECT INVITATIONS TO INDIAN SCIENTISTS.

3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE ARE TAKING NO ACTION TO REQUEST GOI CLEARANCE FOR DRS. ABROL AND IYENGAR. WE WILL ADVISE AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE FORMAL GOI CLEARANCE FOR DRS. POLIWAL AND BHARDWAJ. IN LIGHT OF OUR EARLIER OPEN-ENDED REQUEST FOR GOI NOMINATIONS, MADE AT NSF REQUEST, WE BELIEVE THAT NSF SHOULD SUPPORT THE TWO SCIENTISTS NOMINATED BY GOI AND NOT ATTEMPT TO SUBSTITUTE OTHERS AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR. IF NSF IS IN A POSITION TO SUPPORT MORE THAN TWO INDIAN SCIENTISTS, PLEASE ADVISE ASAP AND WE CAN REQUEST MEA CLEARANCE FOR ABROL AND IYENGAR.

4. OTHERWISE, NSF MAY WISH TO INSTRUCT PANAM NOT TO ISSUE TICKETS TO DRS. ABROL AND IYENGAR.

5. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.  
GOHEEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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